THANKSGIVING DAY, 1954

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

November 6, 1954

A PROCLAMATION

Early in our history the Pilgrim fathers inaugurated the custom of dedicating one day at harvest time to rendering thanks to Almighty God for the bounties of the soil and for His mercies throughout the year. At this autumnal season tradition suggests and our hearts require that we follow that hallowed custom and bow in reverent thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us individually and as a Nation.

We are grateful that our beloved country, settled by those forebears in their quest for religious freedom, remains free and strong, and that each of us can worship God in his own way, according to the dictates of his conscience.

We are grateful for the innumerable daily manifestations of Divine goodness in affairs both public and private, for equal opportunities for all to labor and to serve, and for the continuance of those homely joys and satisfactions which enrich our lives.

With gratitude in our hearts for all our blessings, may we be ever mindful of the obligations inherent in our strength, and may we rededicate ourselves to unselfish striving for the common betterment of mankind.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, President of the United States of America, in consonance with the joint resolution of Congress approved December 26, 1941, designating the fourth Thursday of November of each year as Thanksgiving Day, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 25, 1954, as a day of national thanksgiving, and I call upon all our citizens to observe the day with prayer. Let us demonstrate in our lives our humble thanks to God for His beneficence in the year which is past, and let us ask His guidance in the year to come.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this sixth day of November in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-four, and [SEAL] of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-ninth.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President: John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State.

NATIONAL SALVATION ARMY WEEK

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

November 24, 1954 [No. 3078]

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the high spiritual and humanitarian role of the Salvation Army has long been an important part of American life; and WHEREAS, through its welfare and religious institutions in our country, the Salvation Army has befriended, aided, and given new hope to men, women, and children, regardless of race or creed; and

Thanksgiving Day,

55 Stat. 862. 5 USC 87b.